

U.S. Application No.: 09/768,912

Atty. Docket No. 09792909.4785

REMARKS

Claims 9-12 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 13-24 have been canceled. Reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 9-11 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sassa et al. Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unparentable over Sassa et al. For the following reasons, the prior art rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Applicant respectfully submits that Sassa et al. do not teach or suggest a semiconductor device including a device formed on one major surface of said single-crystal substrate by using III-V compound semiconductors, a layer disposed on the major surface of the single-crystal substrate and in electrical connection with the device, and a via hole formed in said single-crystal substrate through to the layer, wherein an electrical connection to the device is created through the via hole and contact with the layer, as recited in amended Claim 9.

Rather, Sassa et al. are silent with respect to a layer (i.e., gold pad 24) formed on the substrate 21 that provides electrical connection to the device 23 (i.e., FET), and fail to disclose that electrical connection is made to the device 23 through the via hole 35 and contact with the layer 24.

In fact, Sassa et al. only disclose an electrode 40 which contacts a Si-doped GaN layer 3 directly through substrate 1 and AlN buffer layer 2.

Accordingly, the present invention is not anticipated by Sassa et al., and the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Further, since Claims 10-12 depend from Claim 9, they are also patentably distinguishable over Sassa et al. for the reasons cited above with respect to Claim 9.

If the Examiner believes that there is any issue which could be resolved by a telephone or personal interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

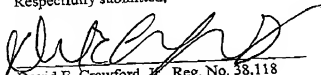
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Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such an extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Dated: November 26, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



David E. Crawford, Jr., Reg. No. 38,118
Customer No. 26263
314.259.5810